



(11) **EP 1 227 007 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
03.03.2004 Bulletin 2004/10

(51) Int Cl.7: **B60R 16/02**

(43) Date of publication A2:
31.07.2002 Bulletin 2002/31

(21) Application number: **02001676.2**

(22) Date of filing: **24.01.2002**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR
 Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

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(30) Priority: **25.01.2001 JP 2001017182**

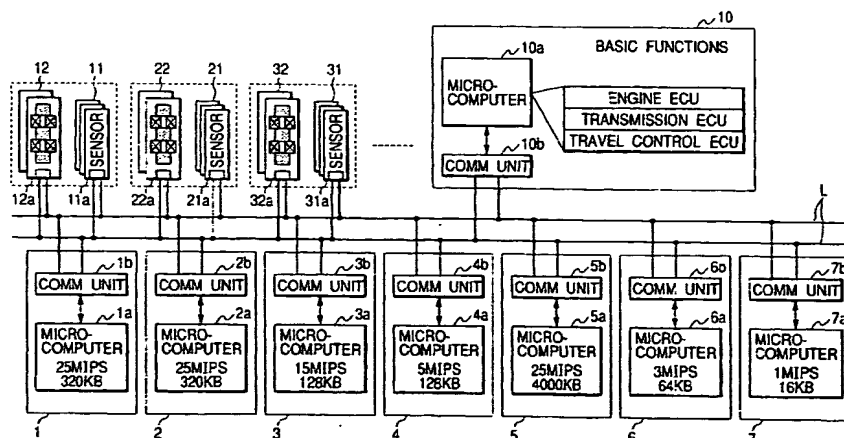
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(54) **Fail-safe system and method in integrated control of vehicle**

(57) A fail-safe system (Fig.2) used in integrated control of a vehicle includes structural-element control portions. Preset priority degrees are given to the structural-element control portions, respectively. A manager control portion (10) stores one or more substitute programs designed to implement functions of ones among the structural-element control portions which are necessary for travel of the vehicle. A downloading device operates for, when one of the structural-element control portions which is necessary for travel of the vehicle fails, selecting one from non-failed ones of the structural-el-

ement control portions as a download destination in accordance with the priority degrees and downloading the substitute program corresponding to the failed structural-element control portion into the selected download-destination structural-element control portion. The selected download-destination structural-element control portion is lower in priority degree than the failed structural-element control portion. The download-destination structural-element control portion serves for the failed structural-element control portion according to the downloaded substitute program.

FIG. 2



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European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 00 1676

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 8 January 2004	Examiner P. Brachmann
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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